

May 6, 2005

TO: Members of the MAG Intelligent Transportation Committee

FROM: Alan Sanderson, City of Mesa, Chairman

SUBJECT: ADDENDUM TO THE MAY 11, 2005, ITS COMMITTEE AGENDA

This addendum is for the May 11, 2005 ITS Committee agenda to allow for a discussion on the Freeway Management System. Please call the MAG office if you have questions about the addendum.

ITEM PROPOSED TO BE HEARD

GENERAL ITEM

9. The Phoenix Freeway Management System, Supported Functions, Performance, Operating Costs and Future Functionality

The Freeway Management System (FMS) is a key component of the regional Intelligent Transportation System. At present, 86 miles of the regional freeway system are instrumented with FMS equipment. This equipment consists of vehicle detectors, cameras, ramp metering signals, electronic signs and a communications network that allows the instrumented freeways to be monitored from a Traffic Control Center (TOC). The TOC is manned round the clock and also serves as ADOT's statewide emergency management center. Designing and building the early phases of the FMS was funded with a combination of federal and state funds. All new freeways since 2001 were built with buried loop sensors, the necessary conduits and pull boxes. The cost of this basic ITS infrastructure was paid for with Regional Area Road Funds (RARF). While the data coming from sensors are adequate for the basic FMS services, they are not

9. For information, discussion and possible action to recommend a course of action to address the issues and concerns.

considered adequate for planning purposes. Other questions regarding the functionality of the FMS, and its current inability to provide segment travel times have raised the question whether building more of the same FMS is a wise investment of regional resources. The Regional Transportation Plan has identified \$143 million for expanding the current coverage of the FMS. The committee will explore the status of the FMS and identify what changes may be necessary to be more responsive to needed services.